

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/075,963	DAY, MARK	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Van Kim T. Nguyen	2151	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/26/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14, and 15-26.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application</li> <li>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

  
 ART DETIENNE

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
 PATENT CENTER 2100

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel Ledesma on January 23, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

**Claim 1:** insert "*wherein said step of receiving the request for a service is performed by receiving a request formatted according to the Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP); wherein the data indicating the particular service extension is mandatory is included in a mustUnderstand attribute associated with the particular service extension*" after line 5, to read as follows:

1. A method for masking differences among a plurality of servers providing similar services over a network, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving, at an application switching component from a requesting process, a request for a service among the similar services, wherein the request includes data indicating a particular service extension is mandatory;

wherein said step of receiving the request for a service is performed by receiving a request formatted according to the Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP);

wherein the data indicating the particular service extension is mandatory is included in a mustUnderstand attribute associated with the particular service extension;

wherein the application switching component is a process that switches among the plurality of servers;

sending the request to a first server of the plurality of servers;

receiving, at the application switching component in response to sending the request to the first server, error data that indicates the particular service extension is not available at the first server, wherein in response to receiving the error data from the first server the application switching component does not send the error data to the requesting process; and  
in response to receiving the error data, sending the request from the application switching component to a second server of the plurality of servers, wherein the second server is different from the first server.

**Claim 7:** insert “*wherein said step of receiving the request for a service is performed by receiving a request formatted according to the Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP); wherein the data indicating the particular service extension is mandatory is included in a mustUnderstand attribute associated with the particular service extension*” after line 7, to read as follows:

7. A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for masking differences among a plurality of servers providing similar services over a network, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of :

receiving, at an application switching component from a requested process, a request for a service among the similar services, wherein the request includes data indicating a particular service extension is mandatory;

wherein said step of receiving the request for a service is performed by receiving a request formatted according to the Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP);

wherein the data indicating the particular service extension is mandatory is included in a mustUnderstand attribute associated with the particular service extension;

sending the request to a first server of the plurality of servers;

receiving, at the switching component in response to sending the request to the first server, error data that indicates the particular service extension is not available at the first server, wherein in response to receiving the error data from the first server the application switching component does not send the error data to the requesting process; and  
in response to receiving the error data, sending the request to a second server of the plurality of applications, wherein the second server is different from the first server.

**Claim 13:** insert “*wherein said means for receiving the request for a service includes means for receiving a request formatted according to the Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP); wherein the data indicating the particular service extension is mandatory is included in a mustUnderstand attribute associated with the particular service extension*” after line 5 to read as follows;

13. An apparatus for masking differences among a plurality of servers providing similar services over a network, comprising:  
means for receiving from a requesting process a request for a service among the similar services, wherein the request includes data indicating a particular service extension is mandatory;  
wherein said means for receiving the request for a service includes means for receiving a request formatted according to the Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP);  
wherein the data indicating the particular service extension is mandatory is included in a mustUnderstand attribute associated with the particular service extension;  
means for sending the request to a first server of the plurality of servers;  
means for receiving error data that indicates the particular service extension is not available at the first server, wherein in response to receiving the error data from the first server the error data is not sent to the requesting process; and  
means for sending the request to a second server of the plurality of servers in response to receiving the error data, wherein the second server is different from the first server.

**Claim 14:** insert “*wherein said step of receiving the request for a service is performed by receiving a request formatted according to the Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP); wherein the data indicating the particular service extension is mandatory is included in a mustUnderstand attribute associated with the particular service extension*” after line 10 to read as follows:

14. An apparatus for masking differences among a plurality of servers providing similar services over a network, comprising:
- a network interface that is coupled to the network for receiving requests from a requesting process;
  - a processor connected to the network interface;
  - one or more stored sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to carry out the steps of:
    - receiving from the requesting process a request for a service among the similar services, wherein the request includes data indicating a particular service extension is mandatory;
    - wherein said step of receiving the request for a service is performed by receiving a request formatted according to the Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP);
    - wherein the data indicating the particular service extension is mandatory is included in a mustUnderstand attribute associated with the particular service extension;
    - sending the request to a first server of the plurality of servers;
    - receiving error data that indicates the particular service extension is not available at the first server, wherein in response to receiving the error data from the first server the error data is not sent to the requesting process; and
    - sending the request to a second server of the plurality of servers, wherein the second server is different from the first server.

Art Unit: 2151

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims are considered allowable when reading the claims none of the references of record alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination limitations specified in the independent claims including receiving a request formatted according to the Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP), wherein the data indicating the particular service extension is mandatory is included in a mustUnderstand attribute associated with the particular service extension.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Van Kim T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3073. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zarni Maung, can be reached on 571-272-3939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2151

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Van Kim T. Nguyen  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2151

vkn

  
ANNU ETTERME  
PATENT EXAMINER  
ELECTRONIC BUSINESS CENTER 2100